

Message Text

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54

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12 M-03 SY-07 RSR-01 /135 W

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R 141210 Z MAR 73

FM USINT CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2731

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 0772

EO 11652: GDS

TA5 S: PFOR XF XI

SUBJ: ARAB LEAGUE TO DISCUSS ARAB/ PALESTINIAN RELATIONS

1. MARCH 14 PRESS REPORTS THAT ARAB LEAGUE SEC GEN RIAD HAS CALLED ON ARAB COUNTRIES TO DISCUSS THEIR RELATIONS WITH PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE TO END DIFFERENCES. PRESS STATES THAT ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARIAT HANDED ALL ARAB AMBASSADORS MESSAGES FROM RIAD TO THEIR RESPECTIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS. MESSAGES CALLED FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION TO SETTLE CRISIS BETWEEN SUDANESE AND JORDANIAN GOVERNMENTS ON ONE HAND, AND PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE ON OTHER. PENDING DISCUSSION OF SUBJECT, RIAD HAS SENT SPECIAL ENVOY MOHAMMED EL FARRA, MEMBER OF ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARIAT AND FORMER HEAD OF JORDANIAN DEL TO UN, TO SEE NIMAIRI. PRESS STATES THAT " ARAB CIRCLES DO NOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT RIAD WILL VISIT KHARTOUM, AMMAN AND DAMASCUS FOR TALKS WITH PRESIDENT

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NIMAIRI, KING HUSSEIN, AND YASSER ARAFAT." DATE OF RIAD'S VISIT WILL REPORTEDLY BE SET LATER. PRESS ALSO STATES THAT RIAD MET MARCH 13 WITH SUDANESE AMBASSADOR IN CAIRO EL-MERGHANI, WHO THEN DEPARTED FOR KHARTOUM. REPORTEDLY ALSO, PLO CAIRO REP GAMAL SURANI MET MARCH 13 WITH JORDAN'S ARAB LEAGUE REP KEMAL HAMMUD.

2. PRESS REPORTS THAT RIAD'S MESSAGE TO ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS EMPHASIZED DANGERS OF PRESENT SITUATION, AND NOTED RESULTS OF ARAB DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETINGS IN REGARD TO JOINT ARAB ACTION. SUCH RESOLUTIONS INCLUDED: (A) CONTINUED ACTION TO PROMOTE ARAB SOLIDARITY AND END ARAB DIFFERENCES; (B) MOBILIZATION OF ALL ARAB POTENTIALS; (C) INTEGRATION OF PALESTINIAN STRUGGLE WITH ARAB STRUGGLE, WITH BASIC ROLE OF PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE IN THE BATTLE; (D) FORMATION OF COMMITTEE OF CERTAIN FOREIGN MINISTERS AND ARAB LEAGUE SEC GEN TO END DIFFERENCES BETWEEN JORDANIAN GOVERNMENT AND PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE. RIAD'S MESSAGE REPORTEDLY TERMINATED WITH NOTE OF REGRET THAT ARAB DIFFERENCES PERSIST AT TIME WHEN ISRAEL ESCALATES ITS AGGRESSION.

3. REGULAR PRESS TELEGRAM IS REPORTING SEPARATELY OTHER PALESTINIAN EVENTS IN CAIRO PRESS.

4. COMMENT: ARAB LEAGUE IS PLAYING TRADITIONAL ROLE OF ATTEMPTING TO HEAL DIVISIONS IN ARAB WORLD. WE SUSPECT GOE IS PURSUING SAME POLICY, BUT IS HAPPY TO HAVE PUBLICITY FOCUSED ON ARAB LEAGUE.
GREENE

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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